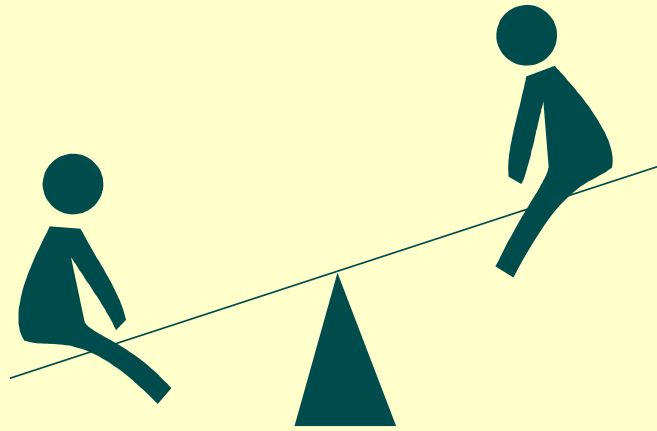




Playground Supervisors Safety Workshop

**A Risk Management
Seminar**

**Part 1 Of a Continuing
Series**

INJURY STATISTICS

- **400,000 Children
Ages 2 - 12**
- **170,000
“Reported” Injuries**
- **Between 5 and 12 -
46%**
- **Head Injuries - 47%**
- **Falls - 75%**
- **Deaths - 7 - 9 Per
Year**



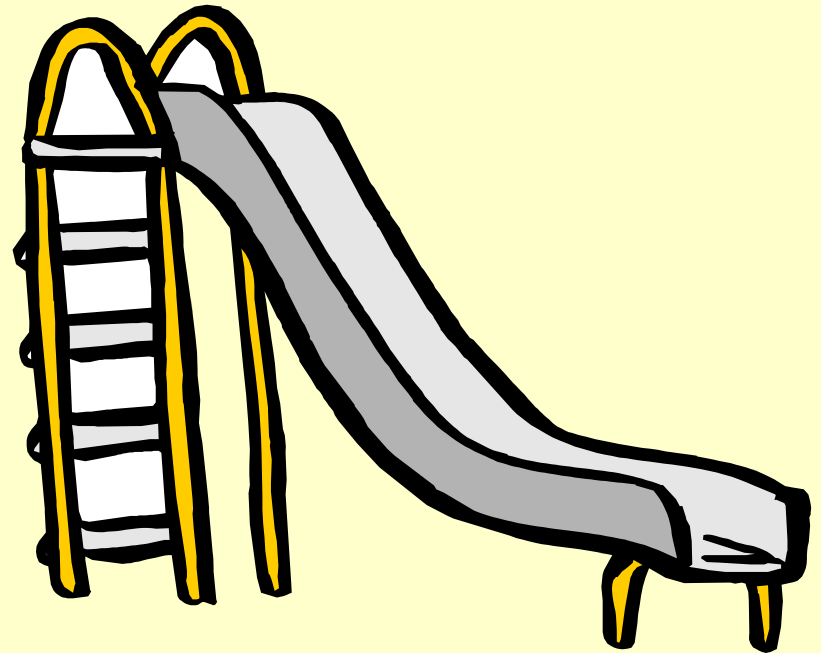
CAUSE OF INJURY (Litigation)



- **Use and Supervision 44%**
- **Poor Maintenance 36%**
- **Improper Equipment 10%**
- **Poor Installation 6%**
- **Poor Layout 4%**

Playground Safety

- Selection
- Installation
- Maintenance
- Supervision



SUPERVISION

- **PRELIMINARY INSPECTION**
- **REGIONS**
- **PROPER SUPERVISION**
- **INSTRUCTION**
- **INTERACTION**
- **DISCIPLINE**
- **EMERGENCIES**
- **ACCIDENT RESPONSE**

PRELIMINARY INSPECTION



- **CAN WE GO OUTSIDE?**
- **WEATHER CONDITIONS**
 - ◆ **Snow**
 - ▮ **Ice**
 - ▮ **Rain**
 - ▮ **Sun**

PRELIMINARY INSPECTION

- **PLAYGROUND SURFACING**

- ◆ Maintenance

- ▢ Water - Ice

- ▢ Depth

- ▢ Debris

- **PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT**

- ▢ Condition

- ▢ Vandalism

- ▢ Deterioration

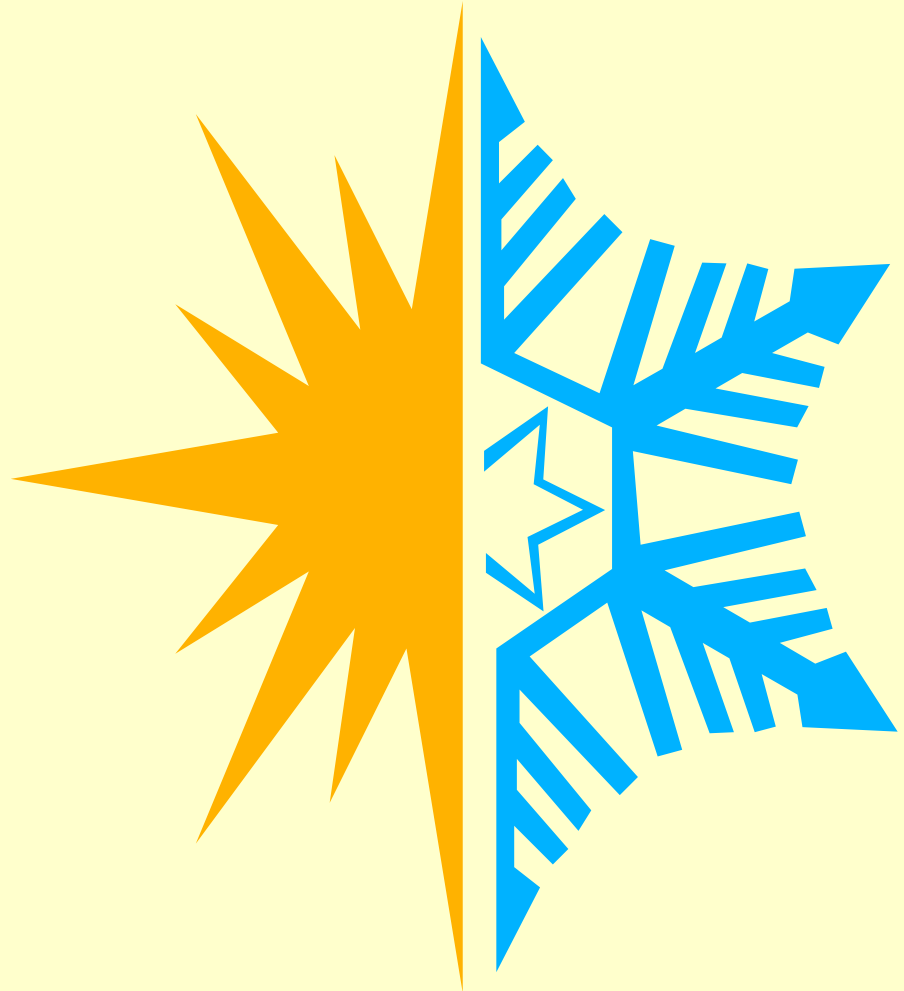
EQUIPMENT DANGERS

**Be aware of these nine
dangers . .**

- **Pinch-Crush Points**
- **Rings**
- **“S” Hooks**
- **Hard, Heavy Swings**
- **Inadequate Spacing**
- **Exposed Screws and Bolts**
- **Hard Surfaces**
- **Sharp Edges**
- **Improper Anchoring**

SURFACING MATERIALS

- WOOD CHIPS
- PEA GRAVEL
- SAND
- RUBBER



SUCCESSFUL SUPERVISION

- **Equipment Placement**
- **NEVER Read**
- **No Radios or Walkman**
- **NEVER “Cluster”**
- **Avoid Joining Games**
- **NEVER Umpire**
- **Circulate**
- **Do not socialize near doorways**
- **Remember - You Are a Role Model**

REGIONS

- **“MANAGEABLE” Areas**
- **“PERMISSIBLE” Games**
- **“OFF LIMIT” Areas**
- **“HIGH RISK” Areas
Determined**
- **“TIME OUT” Areas**



INSTRUCTION

Do Not Allow Children

To

- **Run too close to swings or other equipment**
- **Stand or Jump off swings, slides or platforms**
- **Go head first down slides**
- **Chase or follow objects into streets or parking lots**
- **Push or pull others**
- **Run through younger children's area**

INSTRUCTION

Do Not Allow Children

To

- **Overcrowd on equipment**
- **Play on unsafe equipment**
- **Play on icy or wet equipment**
- **Throw equipment, rocks, stones, sticks, etc.**
- **No Lollypops, Straws or Gum Allowed**

INSTRUCTION

Ensure Children . . .

- **Form an orderly single file line**
- **Wait until the person ahead of them is finished**
- **Know how to use the equipment**
- **Know what games are allowed to be played**
- **Are aware of the dangers involved**
- **Are properly dressed for the playground**
- **Stay away from and watch for animals**
- **No Bicycles, Skateboards or Roller Blades**

BEWARE

Be on the lookout for . .

- **Team games in individual play areas**
- **Students running through others games**
- **Chase games near equipment**
- **Inadequate field (size or shape) for activity**
- **Games or activities that are too difficult for the child's age or ability**

INTERACTION

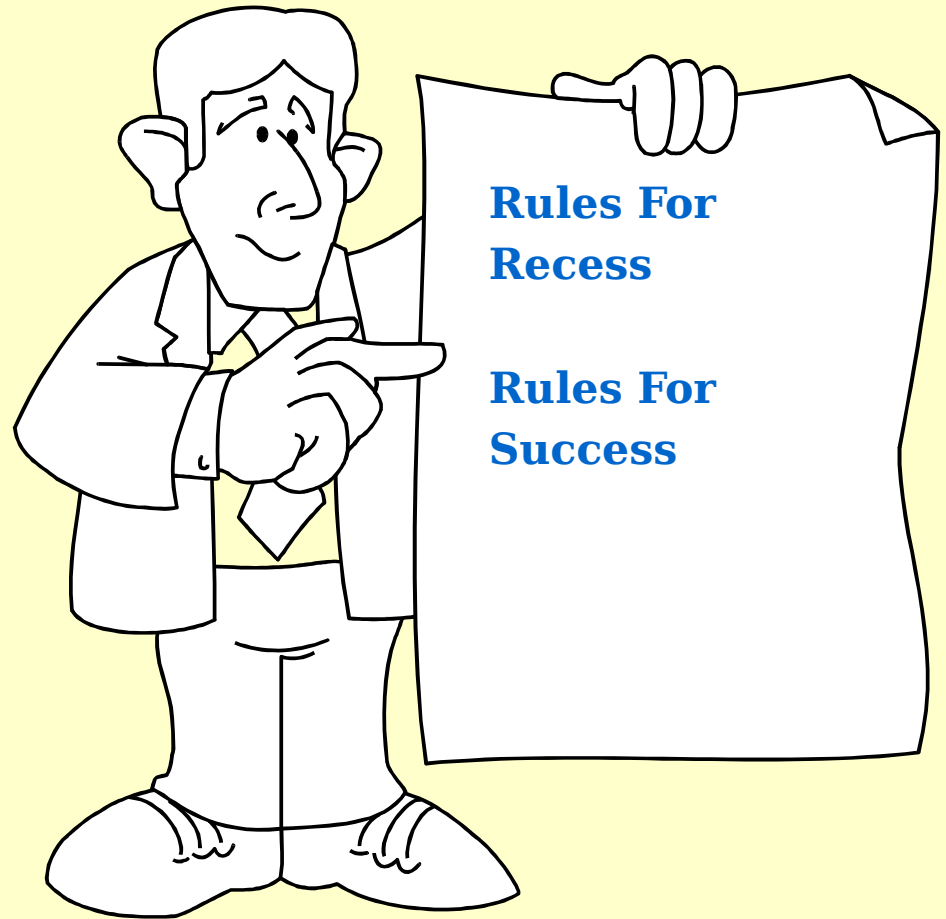
- **Learn the names of the students if possible**
- **Make corrections in a friendly manner**
- **Let “Trouble Makers” know you are there**
- **Interact with the good kids - use them as examples**

INTERACTION

- **Try to stay out of student problems and disputes that can distract you**
- **Fights**
 - ① **Use Loud Voice**
 - ▮ **Disperse Crowd**
 - ▮ **Do not get too close if possible**
 - ▮ **USE SCHOOL POLICY**

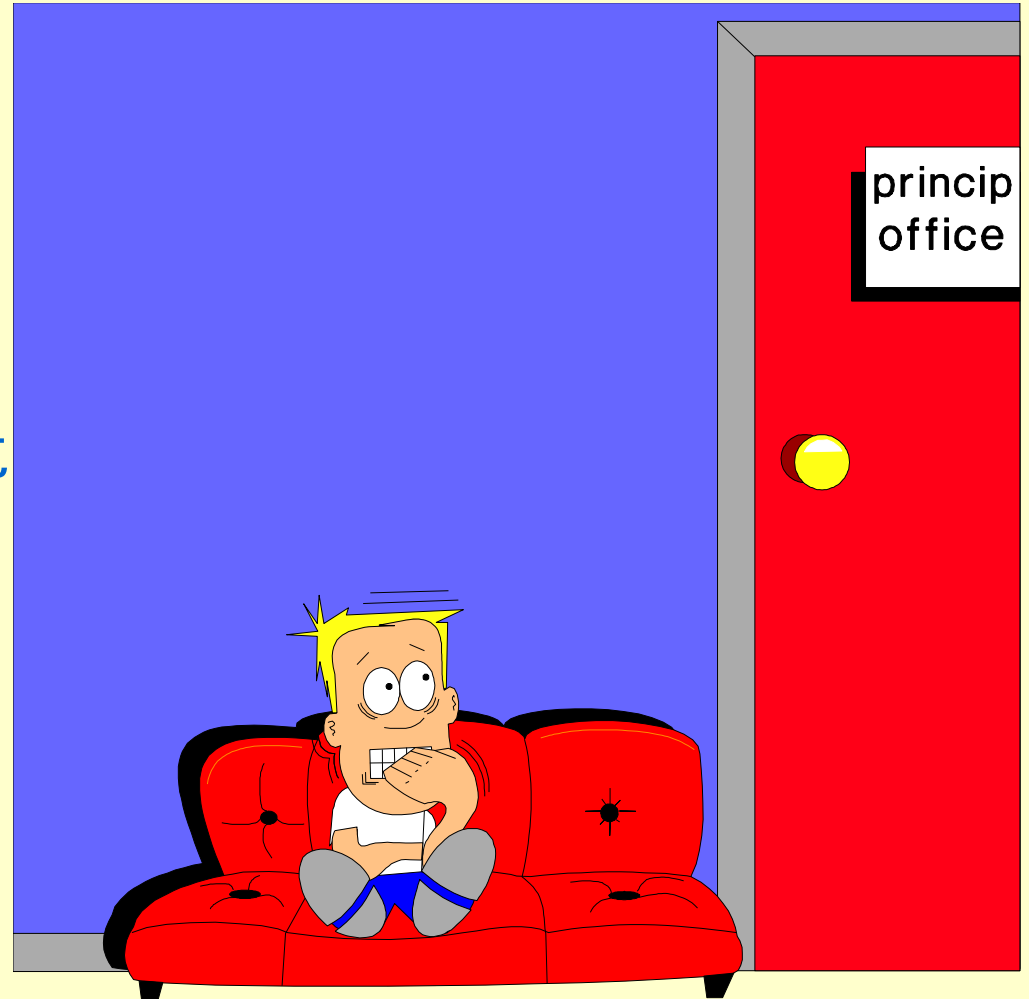
INTERACTION

- **Involve “Clingy” Children with other kids**
- **Know the rules of the playground and enforce them**



DISCIPLINE

- **BE Fair**
- **BE Strict**
- **BE Timely**
- **BE Consistent**
- **BE Calm**
- **BEWARE!**



DISCIPLINE OPTIONS

- **Verbal Reprimand**
- **Redirection**
- **Time Out**
- **“Stay With Me”**
- **Behavior Improvement Forms**
- **Teacher or Office Referral**
- **Memo to Principal**
- **FOLLOW DISTRICT POLICY**



BEWARE

Be on the lookout for . .



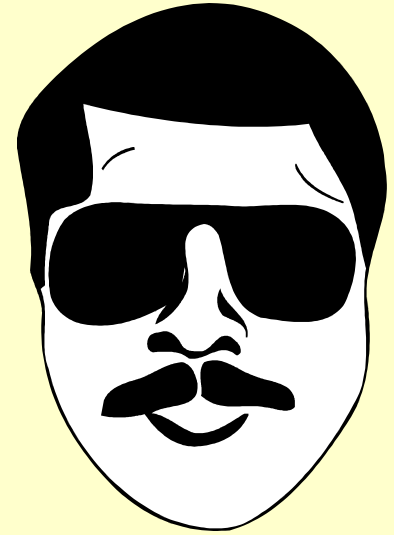
- **Roller Skates, Roller Blades, Skate Boards**
- **Bicycles**
- **Stray Dogs or Other Animals**
- **Sticks, Branches, Rocks, Stones, etc.**

EMERGENCIES

- STRANGERS

① **Immediately
Identify All
Persons Who
Wander Onto
Grounds**

▮ **Follow School
Policy**



EMERGENCIES

- PARENTS

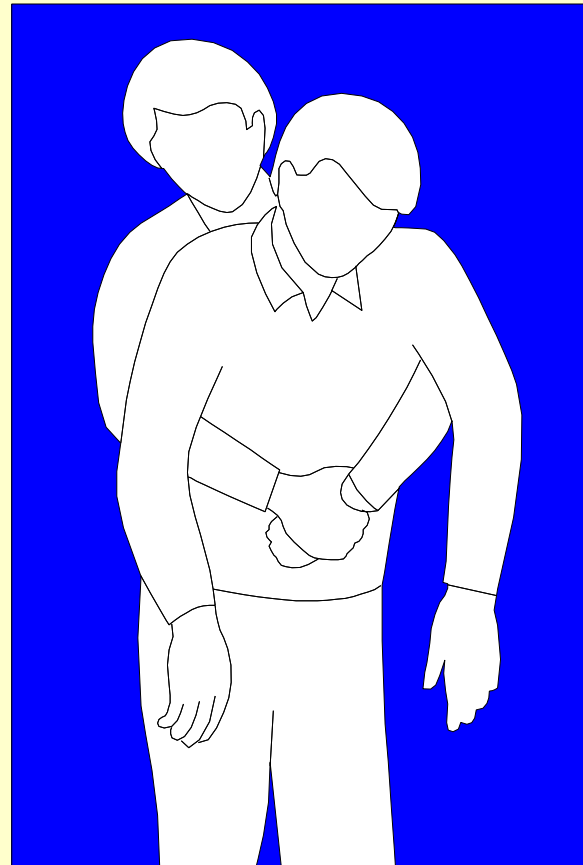
- ① Custody Disputes - Kidnapping

- Follow School Policy



EMERGENCIES

- ACCIDENTS
 - ① **NEVER** leave area **unattended**
 - ▢ **Use School Notification System**
 - ▢ **First Aid?**
 - ▢ **DO NOT MOVE the child!**
 - ▢ **Follow the District's Emergency Plan**



ACCIDENT RESPONSE

What should YOU do in response to an accident. . .

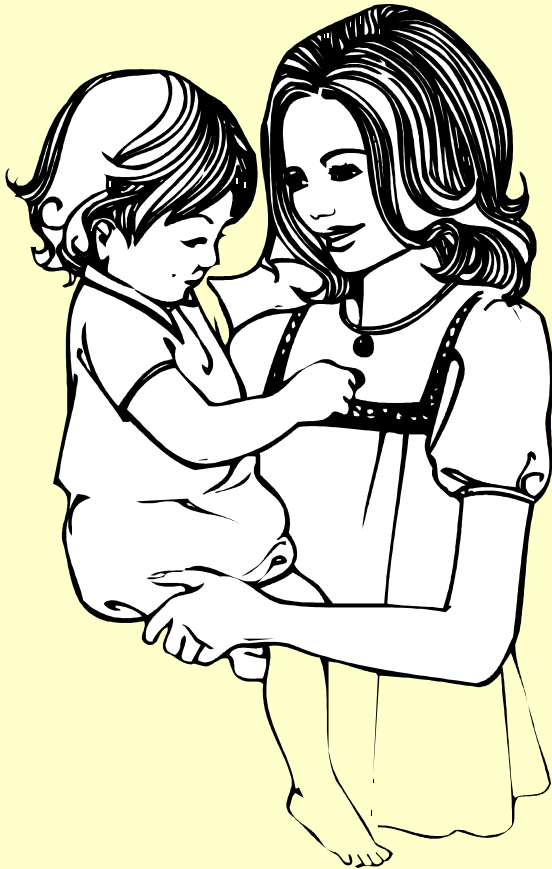
- **Follow the District's Policy and Emergency Plan**
- **One Supervisor should stay with the child**
- **Send someone to the Nurse**
- **DO NOT MOVE the child**
- **Stop all play**

ACCIDENT RESPONSE

What should YOU do in response to an accident. . .

- **Keep other children away**
- **Comfort Child**
- **First Aid?**
- **Complete Accident Form**
- **Speak only to District Personnel**

WHY DO PARENTS SUE?



- **IMPROVE SAFETY**
- **RECOVER LOST EXPENSES**
- **ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION**
- **SOCIETY**
- **“DEEP POCKET” THEORY**
- **REASONABLE CARE DUTY**

LAWSUIT ANATOMY

Anatomy Of A Lawsuit

